

A photograph of an outdoor dining table made of light-colored wood. On the table are several ceramic items: a tall dark vase, a smaller light-colored vase, and a small dark bowl. There is also a bowl of salad and a loaf of bread. The table is surrounded by black metal chairs with a woven backrest. In the background, there is a stone wall and some greenery.

BARKER AND  
STONEHOUSE  
OUTDOOR

*Caring*  
for your  
garden  
furniture

## RATTAN WEAVE

We recommend cleaning your rattan furniture every 1 to 3 months to avoid bacteria or mould building up. Dust and debris can be washed away as needed with a clean damp cloth, or soapy water.

A soft non-abrasive brush or tweezers can be used to clean in between crevices, but take care not to damage the weave.

Your furniture should be thoroughly rinsed and dried with a dry cloth. Alternatively, leave your furniture to dry in a well-ventilated area.

### *Please note:*

- We do not recommend using a pressure washer to clean rattan garden furniture.
- Aggressive detergents or abrasive materials may scratch the surfaces of your furniture.
- Reflective objects such as glasses or bottles can damage synthetic rattan when placed in direct sunlight.
- Most synthetic rattan furniture can be left outdoors throughout the year, but we recommend protecting it with a breathable, water-resistant cover.
- Do not place extremely hot or cold items directly on to your furniture, instead use a trivet or placemat.
- Leaving your furniture in freezing temperatures may lead to breakage, as the cold can cause plastic to harden.

## FABRIC

Outdoor fabrics are designed to withstand the elements. We advise cleaning your fabrics with water and mild soap regularly to wash away any dirt and keep it looking fresh. Make sure you rinse thoroughly with clean water and dry with a clean cloth.

### *Please note:*

- Bird droppings should be removed from your furniture immediately to avoid staining.
- Aggressive detergents or abrasive materials may scratch the surfaces of your furniture.



## CUSHIONS

Warm soapy water should be sufficient for regular cleaning of your outdoor cushions. Please do check care labels as fabrics treated with a stain-resistant coating may only require water.

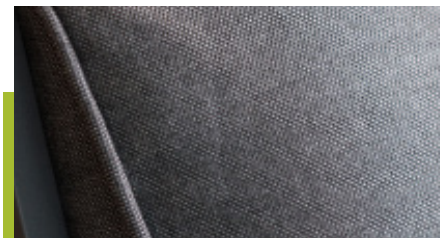
Most outdoor cushions are not suitable for machine washing or tumble drying. They should be spot cleaned only. Please refer to specific care instructions.

Always treat spillages immediately with a clean damp cloth. Do not rub spills into the fabric. Instead, blot the liquid. Gel based spills such as ketchup should be left to solidify, so you can then carefully scrape it from the surface.

Tough stains may require treatment with a mild bleach solution, but please do seek professional advice if you are unsure.

### *Please note:*

- We recommend storing outdoor cushions away when not in use.
- We recommend using suitable cushion bags for optimum protection; however polythene bags should be avoided as they can cause mould.
- Cushions should not be kept beneath protective furniture covers for extended periods, as this can lead to water stains.



## ALUMINIUM FURNITURE

### AND FRAMES

Dust your furniture with a clean cloth before washing with warm soapy water. The solution can be left to work for a few minutes if needed, then rinsed well. When left to dry naturally, your aluminium frames should be dry within an hour.

### *Please note:*

- Aggressive detergents can ruin the surface paint of your aluminium garden furniture.
- We recommend that you store your furniture away during periods of harsh weather.
- Aluminium should always be covered or stored away when not in use.
- If your furniture will be placed in a highly saline environment, such as by the sea, a specially treated paint may be required to protect it.



## GLASS

To keep your glass tabletops looking their best, spray with a suitable glass cleaner and buff with a soft cloth. Use a separate damp cloth to polish, then leave to dry.



## ROPE

You may wish to treat your rope garden furniture with a fabric and upholstery protector for added resistance against stains. For spot cleaning, apply soapy water to the rope and use a soft cloth to gently work the solution in. Rinse thoroughly, blot away any excess moisture, and leave to air dry.

### *Please note:*

- Excessive scrubbing or harsh tools can permanently damage the rope.
- We do not recommend using a high-pressure hose on your rope furniture.



## FIBERGLASS

Fiberglass garden furniture should be cleaned regularly to get rid of any accumulated dirt. Use a simple solution of warm water and mild soap, and wash with a soft sponge. Rinse thoroughly to finish.

### *Please note:*

- Bird droppings should be removed from your furniture immediately to avoid staining.

## CROCHET

You may wish to treat your crochet garden furniture with a fabric and upholstery protector for added resistance against stains. For spot cleaning, apply soapy water to the rope and use a soft cloth to gently work the solution in. Rinse thoroughly, blot away any excess moisture, and leave to air dry.

### *Please note:*

- Excessive scrubbing or harsh tools can permanently damage the rope.
- We do not recommend using a high-pressure hose on your rope furniture.
- We recommend that you move crochet furniture indoors for the winter, or during periods of adverse weather.
- Contact with cigarette ashes or sparks should be avoided, as they can cause damage to both the outer and inner covers.

## WOOD

### PLYWOOD

Polywood garden furniture can be easily cleaned with warm soapy water as needed.

### TEAK

It's advisable to wash your teak garden furniture occasionally with only water and a soft brush. Any accumulated dirt should be washed away once or twice a year using a suitable teak cleaner.

### *Please note:*

- Teak furniture should not be cleaned with a power washer.
- We do not recommend the use of synthetic covers for teak furniture. The wood requires ventilation, so a watertight shed or garage is preferable if you intend to store your furniture away.
- We do not recommend that you move teak furniture from the garden straight into a heated indoor room for storage, as the sharp differences in temperature and humidity may cause the wood to split.
- Teak wood may become sunbleached if not stored away during scorching weather.
- We recommend the use of protective mats for any drinks or objects placed upon your teak furniture.

## ACACIA

To extend the life of your acacia furniture, we recommend that you lightly sand the top layer and reapply a PU coating annually.

### *Please note:*

- Screws must be tightened regularly.
- Acacia furniture should be protected with a suitable weatherproof cover when not in use, or during periods of rain or extreme heat.
- Furniture must be clean and dry before covering, and sufficient ventilation should be ensured.
- We do not recommend storing your acacia furniture in an artificially heated space.
- Acacia wood may become sunbleached if not regularly covered or stored away during scorching weather.
- We recommend the use of protective mats for any drinks or objects placed upon your acacia furniture.
- Wood is a natural material. Under different weather conditions it will expand and contract, leaving natural fractures in the timber. It will also change in look and appearance over time, with the colour mellowing and the finish needing to be maintained. We recommend that you periodically sand down your outdoor furniture and re-finish it.

## PERGOLAS

The aluminium frame of your pergola can be washed with a soft, damp cloth or sponge, and a non-abrasive cleaning agent. Do not use ammonia or chlorine based products, such as bleach.

### *Please note:*

- We recommend regular maintenance of the louvre blades to ensure proper operation. How often this is needed depends on the type of environment that your pergola is placed in.
- Textile curtains should not be dried by hand, instead leave them to dry naturally.
- Curtains should be left to cool before you retract them, particularly after a long period of heat exposure.
- Pergolas are not intended as permanent structures. In the event of severe weather conditions we recommend that you consider disassembling your pergola to avoid any damage to the goods.
- Pergolas are not waterproof structures and should not be used in place of protective covers for your furniture.
- We recommend retracting curtains/blinds during periods of high wind.

## FIRE PIT

Proper care and regular maintenance will keep your fire pit furniture in top condition and ensure it lasts for many years to come.

### *To clean exterior surfaces:*

- Use warm soapy water, never use flammable or corrosive cleaning agents.
- Make sure you keep the area around the burner dry.
- Clear away small particles with compressed air.
- Regularly clean burner holes of any obstructions with a pipe cleaner.
- Do not submerge the control valve in water. If this occurs, DO NOT use it, as it must be replaced.

### *Watch out for:*

- Gas odour with extreme yellow tipped flames.
- The Firepit not reaching the desired temperature.
- The Firepit making 'popping' noises.
- Obstructions to the burner or air vents.
- Spiders or insects nesting in the burner.

### *Please note:*

- You must wait until your fire pit is fully cooled before cleaning, storing or covering it.
- You must always place a lid or protective cover on the heating element when not in use.
- You must make sure the stones are dry before lighting.
- You must not leave the fire pit connected to the gas bottle when not in use.

## PARASOLS

To keep your parasol looking its best, wash the fabric occasionally with a sponge, mild soap and lukewarm water. Dirt and dust can be cleaned away with a soft brush as needed. Aluminium parts should be wiped down with a damp cloth.

### *Please note:*

- Screws and fixtures should be tightened regularly.
- You must ensure the parasol is clear of obstructions when opening or closing it.
- We recommend closing your parasol when not in use, and during high winds.
- Once wet, your parasol should be left open and allowed to dry fully, especially before covering.
- Your parasol should be covered and stored in a cool, dry place when not in use.

## PARASOL BASES

Your parasol base should be regularly maintained to ensure optimum performance. Any rusting to stainless steel tubes can be removed with a suitable stainless steel cleaner.

### *Please note:*

- We recommend covering your parasol base during winter months, or bringing it indoors.
- Parasol bases require at least 2 adults to move.
- Handles are not intended for lifting the bases off the ground.
- The parasol base used must be suitable for the size of your parasol.
- We advise lifting your parasol base, rather than dragging it, across any bumpy areas to avoid damage.
- Brakes should always be applied when your parasol is in position.



## FURNITURE COVERS

We recommend covering your garden furniture with a suitable cover whenever it isn't in use, to protect it from premature aging from the elements.

Your outdoor furniture covers should be cleaned with mild soapy water and a soft sponge. Please allow the cover to dry before using it or storing it away.

Make sure you check your cover regularly for tears to ensure your furniture is properly protected. Covers must be fastened securely, especially in high winds.

### *Please note:*

- Furniture covers should be stored in a cool, dry place when not in use.
- Covers must be removed before using your furniture.
- Fire pits and heaters must be cooled completely before being covered.

## GENERAL ADVICE

### *Do:*

- Retain this information for future reference.
- Regularly check all fittings and re-tighten as necessary.
- Use placemats and coasters to protect surfaces.
- Mop up spills immediately.
- Move your furniture inside during severe weather conditions, eg. high winds.
- Cover your furniture with a suitable outdoor furniture cover when not in use.

### *Do:*

- Do not sit on the arms of your furniture.
- Do not sit or stand on tables.
- Do not stand on furniture.
- Do not drag your furniture when moving, as this can cause damage to the joints.
- Do not use silicone-based furniture polish.
- Do not use glass as a chopping surface.
- Do not strike the glass.
- Do not leave reflective items, such as glass, on any table top surface.
- Do not stand the glass on its edge, as that may cause damage.